

PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF SOUTH CAROLINA

CHIEF HEARING OFFICER DIRECTIVE

DOCKET NO. 2021-336-C ORDER NO. 2021-151-H

DECEMBER 6, 2021

CHIEF HEARING OFFICER: David Butler

DOCKET DESCRIPTION:

Application of CenturyTel Broadband Services, LLC ("CTBS") for a Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity to Provide Competing Local Exchange, Exchange Access and Interexchange Telecommunications Services in the State of Carolina, and for Alternative and Flexible Regulation

MATTER UNDER CONSIDERATION:

Petition to Intervene of the South Carolina Telephone Coalition ("SCTC")

CHIEF HEARING OFFICER'S ACTION:

This matter comes before the Chief Hearing Officer on the Petition to Intervene of the South Carolina Telephone Coalition.

The Petition is timely filed, and no objections to the intervention have been filed.

After it has been determined that the Petition has been timely filed, the next question for the Commission is to determine whether or not the petitioning party has clear factual support or grounds for the proposed intervention. S.C. Regs. 103-825A(3) requires that parties making a Petition to Intervene in a matter pending before the SC Public Service Commission must:

set forth clearly and concisely:

- (a) The facts from which the nature of the petitioner's alleged right or interest can be determined;**
- (b) The grounds of the proposed intervention;**
- (c) The position of the petitioner in the proceeding.**

SCTC clearly sets out the facts from which the nature of the its alleged right or interest can be determined, the grounds of the proposed intervention, and its position in this case. SCTC states that it is a coalition of local exchange telephone companies organized and doing business under the laws of the State of South Carolina. SCTC also asserts that its members are telephone companies or telephone cooperatives subject to the jurisdiction of this Commission, and that its individual member companies provide local exchange telephone service within their respective geographic service areas. SCTC's position in this docket is that statewide certification of new entrant local exchange telecommunications service providers is not appropriate and is not in the public interest. The Application, as

currently drafted, according to SCTC, would potentially impact each of the SCTC member companies and, therefore, the SCTC states that it has an interest in this proceeding.

From these facts, this Hearing Officer holds that the Petitioners have successfully satisfied the criteria for intervention stated in the Regulation. The Petitioner's interest in this matter can clearly be discerned, as can the grounds for the intervention. Further, the position of the Petitioners is clearly stated.

As previously stated, the Petition to Intervene was timely filed and there are no objections to the intervention. Accordingly, the Petition to Intervene of the South Carolina Telephone Coalition is hereby granted in this Docket. This ends the Chief Hearing Officer's Directive.